

Extract from a letter addressed by Wm. P. Hunt & Payee Com. Mint
at N. Orleans - to the Hon. Thos. H. Benton - dated 15 Nov. 1838.

1. "Our Coinage so far amounts only to \$35743 in Dining. The
Matter of refiners, & the Coiners, not being acclimated, were allowed
by the Secretary of the Treasury to leave the City from the
15th August to the 1st. Novemr.
They have not yet returned from the North, & are sup-
posed to be detained by low water on the Ohio River. There is
therefore no prospect of our resuming business before the 1st. Decem-
ber if then, How they are to become acclimated by going to the
North during the Summer Months is more than I can
comprehend - However, the Secretary stated that this sus-
pension of business is not to occur again, & indeed it is
very prejudicial to the Mint, & is much complained of
by the Merchants & Bankers.

2. Should any of the Offices in this Branch Mint
become vacant by death or resignation, it appears to me
very important that they should be filled by acclimated
persons. There are many such persons in this City well
qualified to fill any of the Offices, and the citizens complain
when their own claims are overlooked, & northern men have to
leave the City for the benefit of their health during the summer
months causing all the inconvenience that arising from a
suspension of business."

have the kindness to inform me whether there dies
can be procured from the U.S. Mint, or from any ar-
tist engaged in the mint? or, is there any artist in
Philadelphia, not engaged in the mint, who would
execute them in a superior manner? Your advice
as to the proper course to be pursued, by the committee
in executing the order of the Academy, will be taken
as a great favour by me, which will be added to
a recollection of the hospitalities which I received
from you ten years since.

Very Respectfully Your
Obedient Servant

Dan^d Treadwell

Robert M. Patterson Esq